



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 10/747,904 | 12/29/2003 | Hyoung Seung Ham | 11037-210-999 | 6811 |
| 24341 | 7590 | 03/20/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS, LLP. 2 PALO ALTO SQUARE 3000 EL CAMINO REAL PALO ALTO, CA 94306 | | | | MCCREARY, LEONARD |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| | | 3616 | | |

DATE MAILED: 03/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/747,904 | HAM, HYOUNG SEUNG |
| | Examiner Leonard J. McCreary, Jr. | Art Unit 3616 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 4-6 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 29 December 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>29 Dec 2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 6 (Fig. 1.) Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 2 and 4 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 2, lines 1-2 recite, "wherein volumes of the first and second fluid chambers each have a volume," when the claim would more appropriately read "wherein the first and second fluid chambers each have a volume." Claim 4, line 3 recites, "the intermediate

extension for couple," when the claim might more appropriately read "the intermediate extension for coupling."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 4,693,491 to Akatsu et al. Akatsu discloses a suspension system comprising the following:

a. A lower arm 4; a front bushing disposed on the lower arm with a first outer pipe 9, a first inner pipe 13 that is disposed within the first outer pipe and is configured for connection to a vehicle body, and a first shock absorbing member 11 that is disposed between the first outer pipe and the first inner pipe, a first fluid chamber 15 being formed within the first shock absorbing member, the first fluid chamber being filled with a fluid W; a rear bushing disposed on the lower arm with a second outer pipe 10, a second inner pipe 14 that is disposed within the second outer pipe and is configured for connection to the vehicle body, and a second shock absorbing member 12 that is disposed between the second outer pipe and the second inner pipe, a second fluid chamber 16 being formed within the second shock absorbing member, the second fluid chamber being filled with

the fluid W; and a fluid transferring pipe 17 connecting the first and second fluid chambers together such that the fluid can transfer between the first and second fluid chambers (claim 1.)

- b. The first and second fluid chambers (15, 16) each have a volume and said chamber volumes are respectively less than a volume of each of the first and second shock absorbing members (11, 12) (claim 2.)
- c. Each of the first and second shock absorbing members (11, 12) is made of a rubber material (column 3, lines 41-47) (claim 3.)

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4-6 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art, individually or in combination, fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the matter claimed in claims 4-6. The most analogous prior art, Fig. 18 of U.S. 4,693,491 to Akatsu et al, shows a lower control arm with front and rear bushings with fluid chambers and a knuckle for mounting a wheel. The prior art makes no suggestion that the fluid chambers within the front and rear bushings should be connected through the control arm, even though Fig. 2 of the same document shows a lower arm in a trailing arm suspension having front and rear bushings with fluid chambers connected through the arm.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonard J. McCreary, Jr. whose telephone number is 571-272-8766. The examiner can normally be reached on 0700-1700 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Dickson can be reached on 571-272-6669. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Leonard J. McCreary, Jr.
Examiner
Art Unit 3616

 3/16/06
PAUL N. DICKSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

Application/Control Number: 10/747,904
Art Unit: 3616

Page 6